IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Previously Presented)   A method for outputting audio-visual signals on a client system, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a selected input from at least one local input and at least one network input;

5   if said network input is selected as said selected input, receiving network signal data representing said audio-visual signals at said network input;

outputting at an output said audio-visual signals in a human-perceptible form;

10   and if said local input is selected as said selected input, selecting, from a local signal database, local signal data representing said audio-visual signals;

outputting, at said output, said audio-visual signals in a human-perceptible form;

15   characterized in that,

said step of selecting a selected input is performed in an automated manner based on at least one predetermined criterion.

2.   (Previously Presented)   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said at least one predetermined criterion is based on a property of said local signal data.

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3.   (Previously Presented)   The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein if said local input is selected, said predetermined criterion is based on a property of said audio-visual signals being outputted.

4.   (Previously Presented)   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said at least one predetermined criterion is based on a predetermined relation between a parameter related to an amount of transmitted local signal data and a parameter related

5   to an amount of transmitted network signal data.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said predetermined relation is a ratio of the amount of transmitted local signal data and the amount of transmitted network signal data.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one predetermined criterion is based on a parameter related to the costs of said network signal data.

7.   (Previously Presented)   The method as is claimed in claim 4, wherein said selecting is performed based on said one of said at least one first predetermined criterion, based on a predetermined

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relation between a parameter related to the amount of transmitted

5   local signal data and a parameter related to the amount of

transmitted network signal data, and at least one second

predetermined criterion based on a parameter related to the costs

of said network signal data, and wherein, irrespective of said

first predetermined criterion, said local input is selected as said

10   selected input as soon as said at least one second predetermined

criterion is satisfied.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

wherein if said local input is selected as said selected input,

said method further comprises the steps of:

        receiving of said network signal data simultaneously; and

5   storing said network signal data in a buffer memory means

as buffered data.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8,

wherein said method comprises:

        performing a second step of selecting a selected input is

performed after said local input is selected; and

5   if, in said second step of selecting, said network input

is selected as said selected input, using said buffered data for

providing network signal data.

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10.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

       receiving metadata simultaneously with said step of receiving network signal data; and

5   outputting said metadata in a human-perceptible form.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said metadata includes pricing data representing pricing and selling information relating to said audio-visual signals.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said method further comprises the step of:

       displaying said metadata on a visual output means.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said network signal data is obtained from a server computer system which is communicatively connected to said network input, and wherein said method is performed on a client computer system.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said audio-visual signals are audio signals.

15.   (Previously Presented) A client system for outputting audio-visual signals, said client system comprising:

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at least one network input communicatively connected to at least one server system, said server system transmitting network

5   signal data representing audio-visual signals to said network input;

a memory means provided with local signal data also representing audio-visual signals;

a switch device having a first switch input contact

10   coupled to said memory means in a local mode, a further switch input contact coupled to said at least one network input in a network mode, and a switch output contact; and

an output device coupled to said switch output contact, said output device outputting said audio-visual signals in a human-

15   perceptible form;

characterized in that said client system further comprises:

a control device for automatically switching said switch device between said local mode and said network mode depending on at least one predetermined criterion.

16.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least one of said at least one predetermined criterion is based on a property of said local signal data.

17.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim 16, wherein if said switch device is in said local mode, said

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predetermined criterion is based on a property of said audio-visual signals being outputted.

18.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least one predetermined criterion is based on a predetermined relation between a parameter related to an amount of transmitted local signal data and a parameter related to an amount
5   of transmitted network signal data.

19.   (Previously Presented) The client system as is claimed in claim 18, wherein said predetermined relation is the ratio of the amount of transmitted local signal data and the amount of transmitted network signal data.

20.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least one predetermined criterion is based on a parameter related to costs of said network signal data.

21.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim 18, wherein said control device controls the switch device depending on at least one first predetermined criterion based on the predetermined relation between the parameter related to the
5   amount of transmitted local signal data and the parameter related to the amount of transmitted network signal data, and at least one

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second predetermined criterion based on a parameter related to

costs of said network signal data, and wherein said control device

switches said switch device to said local mode as soon as said at

10   least one second predetermined criterion is satisfied, irrespective

of said at least one first predetermined criterion.

22.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim

15, wherein said client system further comprises a buffer memory

coupled to said network input for storing network signal data as

buffered data, said buffer memory having a buffer output connected

5   to said switch device.

23.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim

15, wherein said client system further comprises:

        a selection device for selecting local signal data from

said local signal database, said selection device being coupled to

5   said local signal database nd to said switch device.

24.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim

15, wherein said client system further comprises:

        a network selection device for selecting one of a

plurality of server systems, said network selection device being

5   coupled to said at least one server system and to said switch

device.

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25.   (Currently Amended)   The client system as claimed in ~~claims~~

~~claim~~ 15, wherein said at least one server system further transmits

metadata, and said client system further comprises a metadata

output device coupled to said network input.

26.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim

25, wherein said metadata represents pricing and selling

information about said audio-visual signals.

27.   (Previously Presented) The client system as claimed in claim

25, wherein said metadata output device is a visual display device.

28.   (Previously Presented) A computer program for running on a

computer system, characterized in that the computer program

contains code portions for performing steps of a method as is

claimed in claims 1 when running on a computer system.

29.   (Previously Presented)   A data carrier containing data

representing the computer program as claimed in claim 28.

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